

MR. RUBINGH: Hi. Thanks for being here. My name is Jeremy Rubingh. I'm the sixth generation of my family here on the West Slope of Colorado. My grandfather and his siblings used to collect the fallen coal off the coal cars to heat their family home over at [indiscernible]. Don't try to collect any taxes off of me on that. It was in the past. But, I'm also a Planning Commissioner in Gunnison County. And in thinking about planning, we really consider facts that are presented to us -- an application, the realities of a project. And we -- you know in a similar situation, we need to think realistically and honestly about the future of some of our West Slope communities and families that are depending on an industry that's in decline. We can't afford, afford really to bury our heads in the, in the sand and ignore the realities of the impact of coal on climate change. We need to be looking at all sides of this. Or the realities of the market that don't necessarily support doubling down on a fading industry. To ignore these realities is honestly -- it's, it's disingenuous. And it's a disservice to the communities, the families whose livelihoods depend on coal. We got to shift this conversation to really a sincere discussion about the economic diversity and stability of these areas. Of course, we must -- we've got to reform this Federal Coal Program. It's been three decades. I mean things have changed in my lifetime in these three decades. We got, we got to reevaluate everything we do. It's true. We've got to modernize. And we've got to look at some, some other sustainable sources of income, but also energy. So, for six generations my family has seen a lot of changes here. And change, you know, we must. But, we can't leave these coal families behind. Federal support for economic transition has to grow and continue. But, our local elected officials really need to support things like an activity and -- on public land to help drive our booming tourism and remote workforce economies. And we all need to knowledge reality as we prepare for a prosperous future in Western Colorado. It is time we reform this coal program to, to reflect these realities and, and the impacts to our western communities. Thanks.